

ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

2003



The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission works to create conditions in Arizona's communities that promote juvenile justice and the positive development of youth, to reduce youth-related problems, to advocate for youth involvement in both the planning and implementation of projects, and to increase collaboration among sectors in the community to address youth problems.

MISSION

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission provides leadership to the state and local communities to develop and maintain a coordinated, best practice approach to juvenile justice prevention, intervention, and public safety.



ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

Margaret Trujillo
AJJC CHAIR

Derrick Johnson
AJJC VICE CHAIR

February 2004

Dear Governor Napolitano, Members of the Arizona State Legislature, and Arizonans:

I am proud to present to you the annual report of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission. As a statewide juvenile justice planning, policy, and granting body, the Commission has been at the forefront in providing vision and leadership within our juvenile justice system. Those efforts, and those of our partners from public safety, the Courts and the provider community, have resulted in decreased juvenile crime, safer communities, and youth and families supplied not just with the life skills they need for personal success, but the hope and confidence they need to sustain their growth as accountable and productive citizens of Arizona.

During 2003 the Commission awarded over \$2.2 million in Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant funds to 26 Arizona Communities, including thirteen counties, nine municipalities, and four tribal communities. Over 23 renewal awards, totaling \$1.1 million dollars were awarded from the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention fund. Among major state-wide projects funded by the Commission were grants to provide funding to the Juvenile Online Tracking System – Next Generation (JOLTSng), which provides for increased data sharing and case management coordination among Arizona's juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Program development funds were provided to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections to address the unique needs of female offenders and to improve the quality of care and confinement of delinquent girls. These are just a few examples of how the Commission has actively supported its mission of developing and maintaining a coordinated, best practice approach to juvenile justice in Arizona.

The year 2003 also saw the enactment of the reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act, the touchstone in the development of our national juvenile justice system that created a unique and effective partnership among Federal, State, and local governments. Arizona remains an active participant in not only meeting the mandates of the JJDP Act, but in transcending the core requirements of the Act through an integrated system of care that addresses such important issues as conditions of confinement, quality of care, and program effectiveness.

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission remains committed to ensuring the health and well being of youth and families of our State are adequately met. While we are encouraged by our past, we recognize there remains much to be done, and look forward with anticipation to our future as we work to provide the citizens of Arizona with the best juvenile justice system in our nation.

Sincerely,

Margaret Trujillo, Chair
Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission

Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission Members

Margaret Trujillo, Chair
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Leo A. Daly Co.
(Maricopa County)

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Youth Member
(Maricopa County)

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United Phoenix Firefighters
(Maricopa County)

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Yuma County Attorney's Office
(Yuma County)

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(Maricopa County)

Vada Jo Phelps
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(Cochise County)

Harrison Blackwell
Adult Probation
(Pima County)

Janet Garcia
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Dennis Pickering
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2003 Governor's Division for Children Staff

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Patrice Childress, JAIBG Assistant Program Administrator
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Angie Rodgers, Special Projects for Children
Nicole Yancey, JAIBG Program Administrator

Commission Responsibilities

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission is authorized under Executive Order 97-6 to receive and allocate federal funds under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (JJDP). In compliance with the JJDP Act, the Commission consists of 28 members appointed by the Governor. The members have training, experience and special knowledge concerning the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency and the administration of juvenile justice. The Commission includes representation from juvenile justice agencies, public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, locally-elected officials, as well as volunteers and youth.

Arizona has also designated the Commission to serve as its Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC), as required under Title III of H.R. 3, the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Act of 1997. The JCEC is responsible for establishing a coordinated enforcement plan for reducing juvenile crime.

The Commission's roles and responsibilities include:

- ◆ Advocating for full implementation of the JJDP Act and its core protections for the funding of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs;
- ◆ Establishing priorities for the statewide implementation of the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program;
- ◆ Advising the Governor and the Arizona State Legislature on matters related to the improvement of the juvenile justice system and its services to youth and families; and,
- ◆ Providing leadership to the state and its local communities in developing and maintaining a coordinated, best practice approach to juvenile justice prevention, intervention, and public safety.

2003 Accomplishments

In many ways 2003 was a year of administrative transition for the Commission with an infusion of new Commissioners as well as new staff in the Governor's Division for Children. Despite the changes, no time was lost as old and new Commissioners and staff joined together to meet the Commission's mandate and address related strategic initiatives.

Thirteen new members were appointed by the Governor to the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission in 2003. The Commissioners:

- **Attended an AJJC orientation.**
- **Held a strategic planning session.**
- **Identified strategic initiatives for 2004-2005.**
- **Established a new committee structure to address strategic initiatives.**

The Commission with the support and partnership of the Governor's Division for Children:

1. Received a finding of compliance with the four core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act from OJJDP. This enabled Arizona to receive the full allocation of juvenile delinquency prevention funds, distributed to community-based programs statewide.
2. Continued to fund, monitor and provide technical assistance to existing Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) programs over the course of 2003. These programs are based on elements of research that show opportunities for reducing risks associated with delinquent behaviors. They provide a variety of services for youth throughout Arizona. Short-term outcome information on these programs demonstrates reduced delinquent behavior and increased positive family involvement. The Commission also awarded renewal funds to 23 JJDP programs totaling \$1.1 million.
3. Awarded over \$2.2 million in 2003 Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) funds to 26 Arizona communities, including thirteen counties, nine cities, and four tribes. Throughout Arizona, JAIBG funds support a variety of successful programs, including community service and restitution programming, safe schools programs, as well as technology enhancements to facilitate more effective and efficient information sharing among juvenile justice stakeholders.

2003 Accomplishments, continued

4. Awarded JAIBG state retained funds to the Arizona Supreme Court (AOC) for the following programs.
 - **The automated needs assessment and case plan instrument.** The intent is to facilitate the accessibility of information to probation officers statewide. It is estimated this will directly impact 20,000 juveniles per year. Juvenile probation officers use this tool for assessment, case plan development, and to link with ADHS/BHS, Department of Education and CPS.
 - **JOLTSng (Juvenile Online Tracking System – Next Generation).** This project works to bridge data systems including: Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency, including the Foster Care Review Board Court Appointed Special Advocate program (CASA). The purpose is to better coordinate data and case management of youth and families in Arizona's juvenile justice and child welfare systems.
5. Awarded JAIBG state retained funds to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) for the following programs:
 - **Mental health services – continuum of care.** Funds support the assessment and treatment of mentally ill, delinquent youth committed to ADJC.
 - **Strategies for Juvenile Supervision program – Continuous Case Plan.** This program is a structured decision making process for using effective supervision based on the specific needs of youth in ADJC. The intent of the overall project is to maintain interagency information sharing to improve communication and coordination of services to youth within the system.
 - **Drug treatment program.** This program includes counseling and screening resources for youth in ADJC with substance abuse problems.
 - **Development of gender-responsive services for young women.** Funds support program development to address the unique needs of female offenders and to improve the quality of care and confinement of delinquent girls.
 - **Victims' rights – balanced and restorative justice.** The intent of this program is to hold juveniles accountable and increase services to victims.
 - **Workforce development program.** Funds support the development of an intake assessment tool that addresses job readiness skills and training opportunities for juveniles
 - **Tribal liaison project.** This project provides transition and reentry services to Native American youth in ADJC returning to their communities.
6. Awarded JAIBG funds to support the development and continued implementation of the University of Arizona Social Indicator Data Project. This is the Geographic Information System (GIS) that uses the World Wide Web application for juvenile justice data within the State of Arizona. It enables increased capacity for community risk and needs assessments.
7. Participated in the completion of Arizona's Three Year Plan and formula grant application to the United States Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The plan addresses a number of issues including the major elements of sound policy that preserve public safety and establish effective juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs.
8. Supported the completion of Arizona's 2003 Compliance Monitoring report. This report documents and analyzes data in regard to Arizona's compliance with the four core protections of the JJDP Act. The report was submitted to OJJDP in November 2003.

2004 Future Directions

The Commission recognizes that a major part of its core business is to approve the award of funds and provide ongoing oversight to the juvenile justice grants that are administered through the Governor's Division for Children. To be effective in this role, the Commission also engages in a coordinated planning process that impacts local and statewide juvenile justice policy, informs and improves practice, fosters the development of model programs, and defines consistent philosophies for how to address the needs of children both in and out of Arizona's juvenile justice system.

In addition, the Commission will continue to support, as funds are available, efforts to improve information sharing across agencies involved in juvenile justice and related areas. Examples of these efforts include additional enhancements to the Administrative Office of the Court's Juvenile Online Tracking System (JOLTS) and the YouthBase database system managed by the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections.

In September 2003, the Commission held a day-long Strategic Planning Meeting. Based on a review of continued funding requirements and an analysis of current needs, the following four topics for future directions were developed and adopted by the Commission:

2004 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Compliance With the Core Protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Arizona's compliance status not only has direct implications for grant eligibility, but also is reflective of the realities of policy and practice in the field with regard to how juveniles are treated within law enforcement facilities and detention centers. The Commission is committed to working to identify opportunities for the provision of training and technical assistance to Arizona's communities, to collaborating with communities and supporting effective alternatives to detention, and to identify existing local resources to avoid compliance violations.

Disproportionate Minority Contact. As dictated by the core protections of the JJDP Act, the Commission is committed to developing effective strategies and programs to address minority youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system. Essential to this effort is the establishment of an integrated and comprehensive approach to identifying opportunities for community-level change with respect to policing, developing culturally competent assessments and services, and identifying existing model programs and available resources.

Move from a Punitive to a Remedial Model. The Commission recognizes that rehabilitation of children who come in contact with the juvenile justice system is dependent on an approach that emphasizes effective treatment, services and prevention. Earlier identification of youth at risk, implementation of Best Practices that focus on balanced and restorative justice, and promotion of alternative approaches that will make consequences more meaningful to juveniles are ideas that should be explored and expanded. Moreover, employing a remedial model to deal with children in the juvenile justice system would be more responsive to those children who are also in the child welfare system.

Public Education. The Commission has identified public education as a key component in their strategic plan. The Commission is interested in communicating accurate information about the juvenile justice system to a variety of audiences in Arizona. Other elements of a public education strategy include providing information to communities regarding available resources and tools such as JOLTS, the Arizona Youth Survey, and Social Indicator data that facilitate the development and improvement of local programs.

Recommendations to the Governor and the Arizona State Legislature

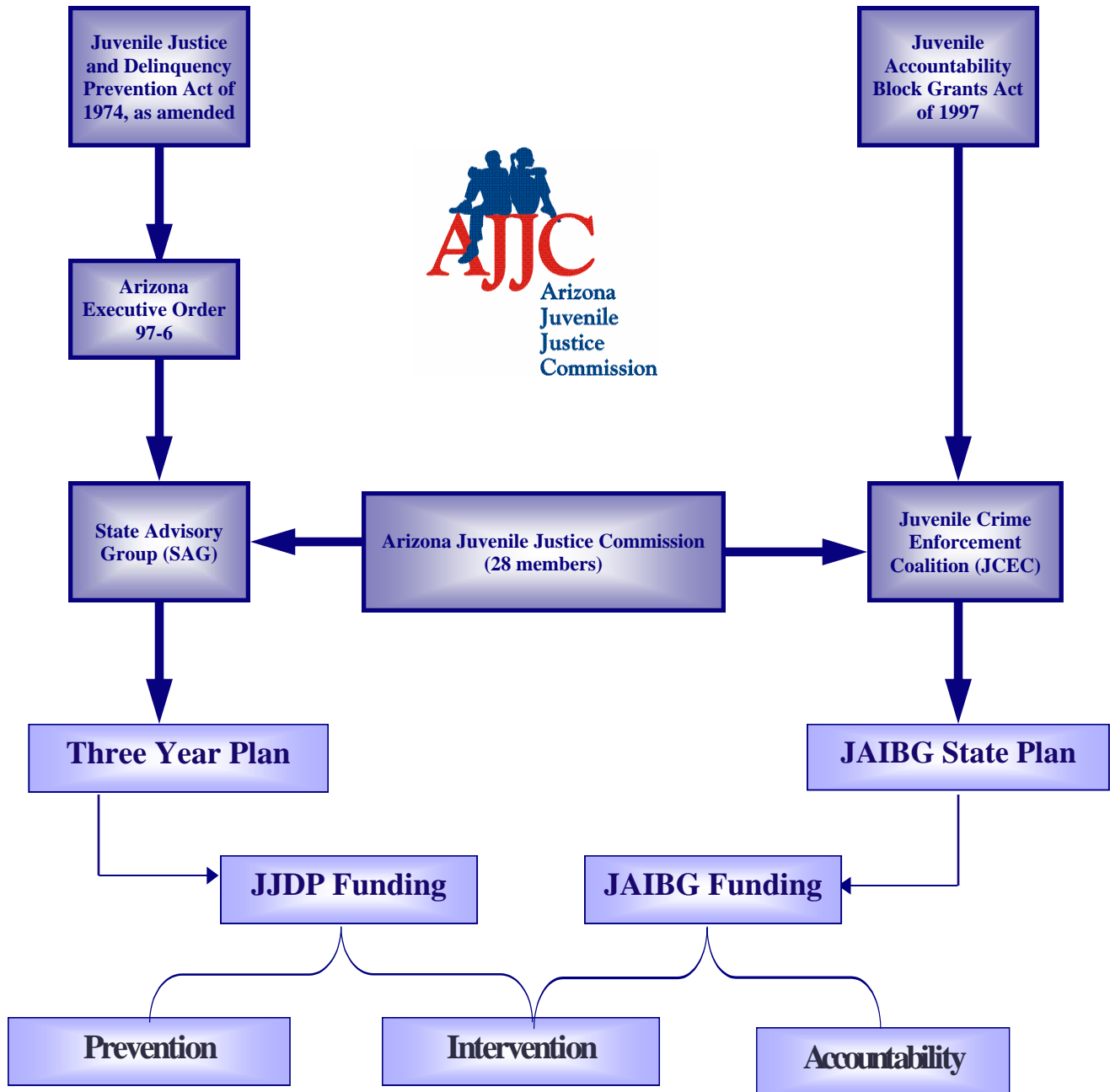
The Commission has adopted and is currently working on the following recommendations and also submits them to the Governor and the Legislature for consideration:

- To bring Arizona into compliance with the core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.
- To address issues that contribute to Disproportionate Minority Contact in the juvenile justice system.
- To move Arizona from a punitive to a remedial juvenile justice model.
- To develop a public education campaign focused on the juvenile justice system.

APPENDIX

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- B. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP)**
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 - 2. JAIBG Priority Areas**

Authorization for and Duties of the Commission



Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP)

The Four Core Protections

The JJDP Act requires Arizona to demonstrate compliance with the four core protections defined in the JJDP Act in order to receive formula grant funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The Commission maintains a focus on these core protections in both their policy recommendations and funding priorities:

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO)

Juveniles who are charged with or who have committed offenses which would not be criminal if committed by an adult (ie: status offenders) and non-offenders, shall not be placed in secure detention or secure correctional facilities. The following are considered status offenses: truancy, runaway, violations of curfew, underage possession and/or consumption of tobacco products, and underage alcohol offenses.

Sight and Sound Separation (Separation)

Juveniles alleged to be or found to be delinquent, as well as status offenders and non-offenders, can not be detained or confined in any institution in which they have sight or sound contact with adult offenders.

Adult Jail and Lock-up Removal (Jail Removal)

Juveniles who are accused of delinquent acts may not be held in a secure area of an adult jail or lockup for longer than six hours, while remaining separated by sight and sound from adult offenders.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

States are required to address juvenile delinquency prevention efforts and system improvement efforts designed to reduce the disproportionate number of minority youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP)

JJDP Fund Description

The Title II Formula Grant supports a wide range of programs for prevention of, or early intervention in, juvenile delinquency.

The Challenge Grant targets areas that are considered significant challenges to the juvenile justice system.

The Title V Incentive Grant focuses exclusively on preventing delinquency of at-risk youth by utilizing the Communities That Care model. This model incorporates a community risk and resource assessment and relies heavily on overall community mobilization to prevent delinquency.

JJDP Priority Program Areas

TITLE II

- Compliance Monitoring
- Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders
- Delinquency Prevention
- Disproportionate Minority Confinement
- Gangs
- Jail Removal
- Juvenile Justice System Improvement
- Native American Programs
- Separation of Juveniles from Adult Offenders

CHALLENGE

- Basic System Services
-Developing and adopting policies and programs to provide basic health, mental health and educational services to youth in the juvenile justice system
- Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders
-Developing and adopting policies and programs to remove status offenders from the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, when appropriate.
- Aftercare Services
-Increasing aftercare services for juveniles in the justice system by establishing programs, and developing and adopting policies to provide comprehensive health, mental health, education, family and vocational services to youth upon release from the juvenile justice system. Program emphasis is on services for girls who have been in the system.

Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG)

JAIBG Fund Description

JAIBG is an entitlement grant and allocations are available to eligible units of government. JAIBG provides states and local units of government with funds to encourage the development of juvenile justice policies, procedures, and programs that promote juvenile accountability. The stated goals of the program include:

- Reduction of juvenile delinquency
- Improvement of the juvenile justice system
- Increased accountability for juvenile offenders

JAIBG Priority Program Areas

- **Quality in Confinement and Training**
-Building, expanding, renovating or operating temporary or permanent juvenile correction or detention facilities, including training of personnel.
- **Accountability-based Sanctions**
-Developing and administering accountability-based sanctions for juvenile offenders.
-Providing funding to enable juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers to be more effective and efficient in holding juvenile offenders accountable and reducing juvenile crime.
- **Information Sharing**
-Establishing and maintaining interagency information sharing programs that enable the juvenile justice system, schools, and social service agencies to make more informed decisions.

For additional information about the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission, please contact the Governor's Division for Children at (602) 542-3486. Visit the Commission's website at:
http://www.governor.state.az.us/cyf/children/AJJC_Programs/index_AJJC_home_page.html

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